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WHY ARE SOME PEOPLE GETTING VACCINES FIRST?

Because pandemic influenza is a new flu virus that people have not been exposed to, developing an effective vaccine may take several months. Once a vaccine is available, there will not be enough at first to vaccinate everyone. It will be very important to limit deaths that would cause a breakdown of basic health care, public health care, and public safety systems.

Will health care workers get vaccines first, and if so, why?

Health care workers will most likely be vaccinated first for several reasons:

- Health care workers need to stay healthy in order to care for others
- Health care workers working at vaccination clinics or healthcare centers will be in contact with more people and patients who have the flu and, therefore, have a higher risk of infection.

Who else will be vaccinated when there is not enough vaccine for the general public to be vaccinated?

- Persons whose work is critical to helping limit flu-related deaths and deaths that could cause the breakdown of health care and public safety systems.
- As more vaccine becomes available, it will be given to those who need it most.
 [Insert more specific information as it becomes available.]

When will I get my medicine or vaccine?

- Every effort will be made to get medicines and vaccines to the people who need them.
- [Insert timeframe for when more medicines can be expected or information about SNS.]